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ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
with that of the
Sanitary Inspector

**For the Year
1944**



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF
THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

J. A. HACKETT, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin. Univ.)
(part time)

Sanitary Inspector:

WILLIAM W. JACKSON,
C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant to the Sanitary Inspector:

L. SEARSON

Assistant Meat Inspector:

J. SMITHSON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1944.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report for the year 1944.

J. A. HACKETT,

M.B., Ch. B.

SECTION A.

I. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of the Urban District.....	about 2,400 acres
Estimated population.....	17,400
Number of inhabited houses end 1944.....	4,927
Rateable Value.....	£90,722
Sum represented by 1d. Rate.....	£357-0-11

The chief industries are Engineering, Timber, Malting and Milling.

II. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISITCS

	Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate
Live Births	356	195	161	20.4
Legitimate	333	183	150	
Illegitimate	23	12	11	
Still Births	9	5	4	
Legitimate	8	5	3	
Illegitimate	1	—	1	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births).....				24.6

Deaths. 1944. All causes.

Total	Male	Female	Death Rate
215	111	104	12.3

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES (Headings 29 & 30).

There were no deaths from Puerperal Causes.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	33.7
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Briths			...	24.02
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births			...	173.9

CAUSES OF DEATH

Disease			Male	Female	Total
Diphtheria	...	...	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	1	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	8	7	15
Other Tuberculosis	...	...	—	3	3
Influenza	...	...	—	1	1
Cancer	...	...	20	11	31
Diabetes	...	...	1	—	1
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	11	21	32
Heart Disease	...	...	24	31	55
Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	6	4	10
Bronchitis	...	...	11	4	15
Pneumonia	...	...	3	2	5
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	3	—	3
Appendicitis	...	...	—	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	3	2	5
Nephritis	...	...	4	—	4
Premature Birth	...	...	1	1	2
Congenital Disease etc.	...	...	2	2	4
Suicide	...	...	—	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	2	—	2
Other Violent Causes	...	...	4	2	6
All other causes	...	...	7	10	17

COMPARATIVE TABLES

Births		Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate
1944	...	356	195	161	20.4
1943	...	299	138	161	17.1
1942	...	325	173	152	18.8
1941	...	261	134	127	14.5
1940	...	277	128	149	15.1

Deaths			Total	Male	Female	Death Rate
1944	...	...	215	111	104	12.3
1943	...	...	224	116	108	12.8
1942	...	...	214	108	106	12.3
1941	...	...	245	127	118	14.5
1940	...	...	244	130	114	15.1

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	5	3	8
Illegitimate	...	2	2	4

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

Congenital Causes	...	...	...	...	...	4
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Misadventure	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	1

COMPARATIVE TABLES

		Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality
England and Wales	...	17.6	11.6	46
126 Great Towns	...	20.3	13.7	52
148 Smaller Towns	...	20.9	12.4	44
London	...	15.0	15.7	61
Gainsborough	...	20.4	12.3	33.7

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

No important change has taken place during the year. Diphtheria Immunization has been continued chiefly at the Infant and Child Welfare Centre. There still appears to be a great many people who refuse to have their children immunized.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

The usual services have been carried out in a satisfactory manner. The water supply continues adequate and of good quality. Routine analyses have been carried out and the results have been satisfactory.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

The usual inspections have been carried out and defects and repairs done. Lack of labour in the building trade and plumbing trade has caused unavoidable delay in many cases.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The usual work has been carried out and particulars are given in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The amount of infectious disease has been light during the year. Two deaths occurred from Notifiable Diseases, one from Diphtheria and one from Whooping Cough. The child who died from Diphtheria had had one dose of immunization only a few weeks before and so would not have been protected. Of six notifications of Diphtheria only one was bacteriologically positive.

Twenty-six cases of scabies were admitted to hospital from the Urban District. 70 cases of various infectious disease were admitted to hospital from the Forces and twenty-two cases from the Rural District, and 6 from Scunthorpe Area.

TABLE I.

Disease	No. of cases notified	Removed to Hospital	Died
Scarlet Fever ...	13	9	—
Diphtheria ...	1	1	1
Pneumonia ...	18	—	5
Measles ...	15	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	19	—	1
Erysipelas ...	5	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	4	—	—

TABLE II.

DISTRIBUTION IN WARDS

Disease	North	South	Market	Central
Scarlet Fever ...	9	1	1	2
Diphtheria ...	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	8	2	1	7
Measles ...	3	5	1	6
Whooping Cough ...	6	2	2	9
Erysipelas... ...	—	3	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	4

TABLE III.

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Ages	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas
0-1	—	—	2	1	1	—
1-2	—	—	—	2	1	—
2-3	—	—	1	1	2	—
3-4	—	—	1	1	6	—
4-5	1	1	2	1	5	—
5-10	4	—	2	8	3	—
10-15	4	1	—	1	1	—
15-20	—	1	2	—	—	—
20-35	3	3	1	—	—	—
35 up	1	—	7	—	—	5

CANCER

There were 31 deaths from Cancer. This figure is the same as last year and appears fairly constant.

The sites of the disease were as follows:

Gartiointestinal	...	...	15
Genitourinary	...	...	4
Respiratory	...	...	5
Breast	...	...	2
Brain	...	...	2
Gall Bladder	...	...	1
Tongue	...	...	1
Oesophagus	...	...	1

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1944.

TABLE I.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 ...		1		1		1		2
1—5 ...								
5—10 ...	1	1						
10—15 ...	1		1					
15—20 ...		1				1		
20—35 ...	6	11			3	1		
35—45 ...	1	2	1			2		
45 up ...	8	1		1	5	2		1
Totals ...	17	17	2	2	8	6		3

TABLE II.

DISTRIBUTION IN WARDS

NEW CASES

North	South	Market	Central
9	7	11	11

DEATHS

5	2	5	5
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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Sanitary Inspector

for the year 1944

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH
COMMITTEE.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my sixth annual report, covering the year 1944, in a very much abbreviated form. In spite of the heavy demands placed upon the Department, the Staff have once again carried out their duties in an efficient manner. We have had a considerable amount of work to carry out answering many queries and completing forms for various purposes which detracts from the ordinary work of the department to a great degree.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1937

The number of workshops on the register, including bakehouses, is 112.

121 visits have been paid to these premises.

There are 12 bakehouses on the register, and these have been visited on 44 occasions. Contraventions in 10 instances were found, and these were remedied.

These were general cleanliness complaints and were due to shortage of staff.

SHOPS ACT, 1934

During the year, 75 visits were paid to the shops retailing food-stuffs, and nothing was found to complain of. No notices were served during the year. Several improvements were obtained by informal action.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

This work consists in visiting premises where food is prepared in the various cooked and uncooked forms.

The shops registered under the above Act have constantly been visited, and all were found to be clean and well kept. 137 visits were paid to these premises.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES and MILK SUPPLY

The number of Cowkeepers is 8, the number of Cowsheds 16, and the approximate number of Milch Cows is 90.

41 visits have been paid to these premises, and it was necessary to draw the attention of the Cowkeepers to contraventions in four instances, and these were remedied.

During the year, four satisfactory reports on the condition of "Accredited" Milk were received.

On the register of Dairies are 23 Purveyors and 4 Dairymen, 11 Purveyors and 2 Dairymen reside outside the District. 21 small shops also retail bottled milk, brought into the town by the bottlers. 61 visits were paid to these premises, and 5 contraventions of the Regulations were found and these were remedied.

36 tests for keeping quality and cleanliness were taken during the year from milk retailed in the Urban District.

9 unsatisfactory tests were from milk produced outside the area, and in one case I was afforded an opportunity to visit the farms and take progress samples, this was being dealt with at the close of the year.

Regular visits were made to the one Pasteurizing Plant in the district as samples were adversely reported upon. This resulted in new equipment being obtained and more attention given to methods employed. It is only fair to state that unsuitable labour was undoubtedly the cause of some bad samples.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES and MEAT and FOODS INSPECTION

The Slaughterhouse taken over by the Ministry of Food early 1940, was visited daily, and the Inspector given every assistance in the performance of his duties. The Slaughterhouse has been well kept.

The number of visits paid to the Slaughterhouse, Butchers' Shops and Market Stalls was 2,722, and the number of Carcases examined was:—Beast, 1,673; Cows, 401; Calves, 264; Sheep and Lambs, 4,621; and Pigs, 350; making a grand total of 7,309 carcasses.

Other foodstuffs condemned during the year were:—

693 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Beef, bruised, broken leg and abscess

2 Hindquarters of Beef

27 lbs. of Mutton, bruised

47 lbs. Pork, bruised and broken leg

137 tins assorted sizes Preserved Meats

3 tins assorted sizes Fruit

22 tins assorted sizes Vegetables

237 tins assorted sizes Fish

227 tins assorted sizes Milk

162 jars assorted Preserves

32 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Butter and Cooking Fats

5 Fish Cakes

14 Meat Pies

112 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Bacon and Ham

31 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Cheese

3 lbs. Tea

140 lbs. Preserved Meats

25 lbs. Dried Fruits

44 tins Soups and Scotch Broth

30 lbs. Self Raising Flour

5 jars Pickles

29 pkts. Gravy Salt

70 lbs. Sandwich Spread

2 pkts. Cake Mixture

72 Chocolate Nut Bars

56 lbs. Coffee

1 cwt. Sausage Rusk

1 bottle Lemon Squash

Appended table of Carcasses inspected is compiled from the Ministry of Health's Circular, 1938.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excl'd'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1592	401	264	4621	343
Number inspected.....	1673	401	264	4621	350
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	10	3	2	5	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	79	12	5	76	39
Percentage of number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	5.6	3.7	2.65	1.73	12.82
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	7	25	—	—	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	163	30	—	—	58
Percentage of number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	11.3	13.7	—	—	18.0

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The number of Trades on the Register is 4. 82 visits have been paid to these premises during the year, and on the whole they have been kept clean and free from nuisance. The Hide and Skin Company's trade has been satisfactorily carried on despite transport difficulties, especially during the hot weather.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE

The collection of the Town's Refuse during the past year has been successfully carried out, despite transport and other difficulties.

The two Karrier "Bantams" were responsible for the collection of the refuse, with the exception of the "peak" periods of cleaning times, holidays and bad weather. The old "Colt" is now used for paper collection and other incidental works, i.e., haulage of Coke to Hospital and transporting tins to the Railway Station and other rechargeable work, and thus cutting out the necessity of hiring outside transport.

The amount of refuse collected has increased considerably due to inferior coal (giving a high percentage of ash) and to the increasing number of cases where two families are occupying one house.

CONTROLLED TIPPING OF REFUSE

The amount of refuse dealt with at the Controlled Tip was 5,562 Tons. These are estimated weights, and are for the financial year ending 31st March, 1945.

Tipping of refuse was carried out on a site on the Marsh and by the Railway Embankment. The Railway have expressed their appreciation of the work so far.

The figures on the next page are for the financial year, ending March 31st, 1945.

SALVAGE

I am very pleased to be able to report a very satisfactory result from the Department's Salvage activities. Many methods of bringing the urgency of this matter to the notice of the public were employed. Lectures were given by your Sanitary Inspector to various bodies, and the Press gave very valuable support.

During the year, materials to the value of £1,297 were returned to Industry. This figure included 151 tons of Paper; 86 tons of Metals; 6 tons of Textiles; 52 tons of Kitchen Scraps, and many other smaller items.

When compared with other districts, these results are such as to give every satisfaction, and the Salvage Department of the Ministry of Supply have expressed their pleasure at the high returns obtained. The amount of salvage collected and the prices obtainable for it when sold are on the decline, and to find a suitable outlet for some materials is becoming increasingly difficult. It is safe to assume that the peak of Salvage income has been passed.

Goods to the value of approx. £12 were recovered from the salvage and returned to their rightful owners.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Total cost of Collection and Disposal of the Town's Refuse
is as follows:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Household Refuse Collection	3454	3	8			
Revenue	385	15	6			
				3068	8	2
Disposal	1874	6	0			
Revenue	1332	17	9			
				541	8	3
				<u>£3609 16 5</u>		

Pop.	No. of Weekly Collections		Method of Collection	COLLECTION COSTS								Method of Disposal	DISPOSAL COSTS.					
	House	Trade		Total Cost	Total Tons (Est.)	Cost per Ton (Est.)	Cost per House	Cost per 1000 Houses	Cost per head of Popl'n	Cost 1000 hd. of Pop'n	Total Cost		Total Tons (Est.)	Cost per Ton (Est.)	Cost per House	Cost 1000 Houses	Cost per Head of Population	Cost 1000 Head of Population
17,400	1	1	2 Motors 1 Motor as required	£3,068	5,562	11/-d.	12/5d.	£621	3/6d.	£175	Controlled Tip	£541	5562	1 11d.	2 2d.	£108	7½d.	£31

Rate Represented for Collection and Disposal 10.1d.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year, 141 cases of Infectious Disease were admitted to the Foxby Hill Isolation Hospital. 43 cases were from the Urban District, 22 cases from the Gainsborough Rural, 6 from other Local Authority Areas and 70 Non-Civilian.

1 death took place at the Hospital.

34 visits have been paid to premises during the year and 44 rooms have been disinfected from Infectious Diseases, and 31 after Tuberculosis.

A considerable amount of Disinfection of Clothing and Bedding has been carried out for the Military Authorities.

Ambulance

The Morris Ambulance has been used as required in connection with the Isolation Hospital. This is now stationed at the hospital, an arrangement much more satisfactory to all.

Disinfectants

The usual amount of Disinfectants has been issued to Householders during the summer months.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

There has been little progress in Housing since the outbreak of hostilities.

NEW BUILDINGS

No new houses have been erected during the year.

WATER CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There has been little change in this direction, and there are still 9 pail closets at outlying premises. Trough closets have about disappeared.

TOWN AMBULANCE

The Ford Ambulance continues to give satisfactory service in and around the district.

NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR.

In connection with these, 185 repairs and nuisances were remedied.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR

Inspections and Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	356
Slaughterhouses, etc.	...	...	...	...	2722
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	44
Workshops and Factories	...	...	...	...	129
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	75
Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	74
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	...	102
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	82
Marine Stores	...	...	...	...	20
Common Lodging House	...	...	...	...	46
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	34
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1210
Visits re Rats and Mice Destruction	...	...	...	...	625
Visits re Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	25
Visits re Foot and Mouth Disease	...	...	...	...	756

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. S. Algar, the Water Engineer, for the following abridged report.

The water supply continues to be satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity.

Routine water analysis continues, and the results are reassuring.

DRAINAGE and SEWAGE

There is nothing of note to report as regards the drainage and sewage of the Town.

In conclusion of this Report, I am happy to record the good feelings existing between the various trades of the town and the Health Department in its activities.

My thanks are due to the Health Committee for their unstinted co-operation, and to the Medical Officer of Health, to Mr. Smithson, the Meat Inspector and the Cleansing and Disposal Staffs, who have co-operated to make the work of the Department to go well, and lastly, to my assistant, Mr. Searson, who has given invaluable help at all times.

I am,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. W. JACKSON,

